AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, lines 25-32 with the following amended paragraph:

In order to compare a bioavailability and a sustained releasing effect of the orally administrable formulation of the present invention and examine its therapeutic effect on the liver as a target site of HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, tests for bioavailability and distribution/excretion into bile juice when orally administered to rats were conducted as follows. At this time, the sustained release formulation prepared in Example 5 was used as a test sample and ~~ZOCOR®~~-ZOCOR® (simvastatin) (Korea MSD Ltd.) known as a rapid release formulation of simvastatin was used as a control sample.

Please replace the paragraph at page 17, line 32 - page 18, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

The 1st group was a control group which was subjected to the highcholesterol diet during the experiment without treating with a therapeutic drug; and the 2nd group was subjected to the high-cholesterol diet with administering ~~ZOCOR®~~-ZOCOR® (simvastatin) once a day in an amount corresponding to 5 mg/kg of simvastatin. The 3rd group was subjected to the high-cholesterol diet with administering the sustained release formulation prepared in Example 5 once a day in an amount corresponding to 5 mg/kg of simvastatin; and the 4th group was a normal having no history of receiving the high-cholesterol diet and a therapeutic drug.

Please replace Table 5 on page 18 with the following amended Table:

<Table 5>

Animal group	Total cholesterol* (mg/d1)	Ratio of cholesterol level to a control (%)
The 1st group (control)	671.5 ± 84.1	100
The 2nd group ~~(ZOCOR®)~~ (ZOCOR® (simvastatin))	567.9 ± 93.2	84.6
The 3rd group (the sustained release formulation of Example 5)	453.0 ± 77.0	67.5
The 4th group (normal)	81.0± 8.2	-
*an average concentration of total cholesterol ± standard deviation		

Please replace Table 6 on page 18 with the following amended Table:

<Table 6>

Animal group	Triglyceride* (mg/di)	Ratio of cholesterol level to a control (%)
The 1st group (control)	242.4± 12.6	100
The 2nd group ~~(ZOCOR®)~~ (ZOCOR® (simvastatin))	187.0± 24.6	77.1
The 3rd group (the sustained release formulation of Example 5)	157.0 ± 18.0	64.8
The 4th group (normal)	120.3 ± 10.1	-
*an average concentration of triglyceride ± standard deviation		

Please replace the paragraph at page 4, lines 20-22 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 3 presents a diagram comparing elution rates of the sustained release formulations prepared in Examples 4 to 6 depending on the amount of ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum;

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, lines 15-28 with the following amended paragraph:

(iv) Sustained release composite carrier

In the present invention, the sustained release composite carrier served to form a hydrogel is preferably a mixture of sodium alginate (Keltone® HVCR, Keltone® I,VF, Kelcosol®, Kelset®: ISP, USA) and ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum (Keltrol® F; Kelco®, USA), and the mixture may further comprise locust bean gum (Cesagum® LN1, LR 200; Cesalpinia, Italy). Generally, the effects of the components are as follows: the sodium alginate suppresses the occurrence of an initial burst effect; the ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum contributes to configuration fixation, which minimizes the difference in elution rates due to physical force such as gastrointestinal motility; and the locust bean gum can more strongly fix the configuration in combination with the ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum. If the above-mentioned carrier ingredients are used in the mixture at a certain mixed ratio, the initial burst effect and the difference in elution rates due to the physical force can be reduced.

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 29 - page 8, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

In the sustained release formulation of the present invention, the sustained release composite carrier may be used in an amount ranging from 3 to 30 weight part, preferably 5 to 25 weight part based on 1 weight part of a pharmacologically active ingredient. In case of using the mixture of sodium alginate and ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum as the sustained release composite carrier, the ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum is used in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 10 weight part, preferably 3 to 6 weight part based on 1 weight part of the sodium alginate. Further, in case of using the mixture of sodium alginate, ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum and locust bean gum as the sustained release composite carrier, the ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum is used in an amount ranging from 0.2 to 10 weight part, preferably 3 to 6 weight part, and the locust bean gum is used in an amount ranging from 0.1 to 5 weight part, preferably 0.5 to 5 weight part based on 1 weight part of the sodium alginate.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 1-15 with the following amended paragraph:

Example 1. Then, each of the solid dispersants was mixed with sodium alginate (ISP, USA), ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum (Kelco, USA), locust bean gum (Cesalpinia, Italy), propylene glycol ester alginate (ISP, USA), HPMC 2208 (Shin-Etsu, Japan) and kofovidone (BASF, Germany) for about 30 min. Magnesium stearate and light anhydrous silicic acid powders (finer than mesh 40) were added to the mixture, and mixed for 5 min. The resulting mixture was mold into a mass using a shaping assembler, and the mass was crushed down into particles having a mesh size ranging from 20 to 80. The particles were then formulated into a tablet by conventional

compressing in a formulator. Next, the sustained release formulations for oral administration of Example 5 to 12 were prepared according to the same method as described above. The amount of each ingredient is shown in Tables 2 to 4. At this time, HPMC 2208 used in all Examples had a viscosity of 100,000 cps, and Examples 11 and 12 used lovastatin and fluvastatin as a pharmacologically active ingredient instead of using simvastatin, respectively.

Please replace the Title at page 14, line 31 with the following amended Title:

Test Example 3: Dissolution test for the amount of ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, lines 4-8 with the following amended paragraph:

The result in Fig. 3 showed that the dissolution rate of the drug is inversely proportion to the amount of ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum, which suggests that the ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum functions as a sustained release carrier. Accordingly, it can be inferred that a hydrogel having stronger strength is formed by increasing the amount of ~~xantan~~ xanthan gum.